

We at Michigan Migrant Legal Aid (MLA) stand in opposition to this bill. This bill would not do anything to solve public safety issues and in fact will severely hinder one of Michigan's top industries: Agriculture. Our workers who pick 45 different crops are mostly immigrants, and are the backbone of a BILLION dollar Ag Industry. Ask any grower, they will tell you that they CANNOT depend on 'local' traditional labor to harvest their crops. This bill is also a costly deterrent to the delicate and recently fraying relationship between our constituents and law enforcement. This bill would create many more incentives for law enforcement to engage in racial profiling and will put our law enforcement officials in a precarious position in regards to effective community policing.

Our Ag industry and communities should not be punished with new burdensome regulation and needless litigation. This bill would cause an economic disaster for farmers, and for workers, and result in a black eye on our entire state. While Michigan has often benefited from being a tolerant and open society, this bill would send a horrible message to Agriculture producers, immigrant workers, and even to international students and international investors. We believe this bill would be a remarkably horrible step in the wrong direction. It will make our mission of growth and prosperity for farm owners and farm workers much more difficult to pursue.

Michigan Migrant Legal Aid

1104 Fuller Ave, Grand Rapids MI 49503

(616) 454-5955